Closures of sanctuaries in Eastern Ghats

2002. SHRI S. M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have suggested to State Governments to close some sanctuaries in the Eastern Ghats;

(b) the names of such sanctuaries which have been recommended for closure by Government due to river irrigation projects, etc;

(c) what steps Government would take to move such wildlife from such affected game sanctuaries in the Eastern Ghats; and

(d) the reasons for not protecting wildlife by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAYAN MEENA): (a) No Sir, no such suggestion has been made by this Ministry to the State Governments.

(b) to (d) Question does not arise.

Rehabilitation package for displaced families in Karnataka

2003. SHRI K. B. KRISHNAMURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a package of rehabilitation of 201 families affected due to the formation of Kudremukh National Park in Karnataka has been sent by the Karnataka Government for the Central assistance;

(b) if so, when the proposal was received by Government and the amount of the Central assistance sought; and

(c) the present status of the above rehabilitation package?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAYAN MEENA): (a) and (d) The proposal for rehabilitation of families staying in Kudremukh National Park has been received by this Ministry in December 2005. The rehabilitation project under Phase I for resettlement of 201 families is for a total cost of Rs. 23.19 crores, out of which, assistance for Rs. 18.35 crores has been sought from Government of India for acquisition of the land.

(c) There was a dedicated scheme "Beneficiary Oriented Tribal Development" in the IXth Plan for providing financial assistance for

relocation of villages from inside National Parks and Wildlife sanctuaries. This was merged with the Centrally Sponsored Scheme "Development of National Parks and Sanctuaries" in the Xth Plan, however with no corresponding budget enhancement. Hence, it was not possible to allocate the funds to the State from the existing central scheme. The State Government was, therefore, advised to send the proposal to the Planning Commission for possible budgetary allocation in the State Plan.

Poaching of wildlifes

2004. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of tigers, tigresses, cubs, leopards etc. have died/killed in the country during the last one year particularly at Gir Sanctuary;

(b) if so, the number thereof, State-wise, sanctuary-wise and the reasons for their deaths;

(c) the steps being taken for their protection and safety; and

(d) the present number of tigers, leopards, black panthers in the country today?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAYAN MEENA): (a) No reports of large scale deaths of such wild animals during last one year have been received from States. The details of deaths pertaining to wild animals in the Gir, as reported by the State of Gujarat, during last one year (1.4.2005 to 28.2.2006) are as below:

(i) Leopards 46
(ii) Lions 32

(b) State wise details regarding mortality of wild animals collated on the basis of reports received from States during last one year (1.1.2005 to 31.12.2005) are given in the Statement-I (See below).

(c) The steps taken by the Government of India to protect tigers and other wildlife are given in the Statement-ll (See below).

(d) The population of tigers and leopards (including black panthers if any) based on last estimation carried out by States are given in the Statement-Ill.